

To: Blumenfeld, Jared[BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]
From: Meiburg, Stan
Sent: Sat 8/8/2015 1:04:39 PM
Subject: Re: R9 Weekender

A very full report--thanks, Jared. Glad you are feeling fully engaged on Animus River, and thanks for your support. Interesting information on the current status of the San Juan and Farmington intakes.

Appreciate the news about Henry and ADEQ. That will cause some transition work for ECOS--I believe Henry was an officer. I enjoyed working with him on E-Enterprise; he had exactly the right perspective on that.

Stan

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 7, 2015, at 5:43 PM, Blumenfeld, Jared <BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV> wrote:

Animus River: we're working with Regions 8 and 6 to anticipate potential effects of the mine-tailings spill upon downstream users, and welcome Matt's convening of a daily call. I've reached out to Navajo President Begay, and my team is working with NN EPA Director Dr. Ben, and the Arizona DEQ and Navajo Nation drinking water programs. Navajo Nation EPA advises that water being served to potentially affected communities is safe, as the San Juan River and Farmington (NM) water intakes were already shut due to high turbidity. We are sending staff to the Region 8 EOC.

Typhoon Soudelor: On August 2, Saipan was hit directly by Typhoon Soudelor, a Category 2 cyclone at the time. The eye went directly over the central and most populated part of the island, causing significant damage but no fatalities. We are monitoring the impact on water and wastewater infrastructure. Most of the island is without power and the primary water system, CUC, is non-functional. Piped water is unlikely to be restored for 30 days and efforts are underway to seek alternative sources (water buffalos, bottled water and rainwater catchment) as the water in CUC storage tanks are drained. One wastewater plant is down but wastewater lift stations with standby generators are operational. Two OSCs will help with a release at Mobil Micronesia and work closely with FEMA and other agencies on other response efforts. Others are staffing the ESF-10 desk at the FEMA Regional Response Center in Oakland. Soudelor, the 3rd typhoon to impact CNMI in the past two months, intensified into a Category 5 Super Typhoon after leaving Saipan, making it the strongest storm on earth this year.

ADEQ: Arizona Governor Ducey just named Henry Darwin to be his new Chief of Operations and named Deputy Director, Misael Cabrera, as ADEQ's new Director.

Turn Island: EPA and FWS plan to send a joint letter to the Rear Admirals of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard based in Hawaii, requesting a meeting among the high level principals of the federal agencies in September to discuss the Navy's and Coast Guard's participation in future response at Tern Island, located in the Northwestern Hawaii Islands. Accompanying the letter is a memorandum outlining the Coast Guard's and Navy's historical operations at Tern and consequently their current liability under both CERCLA and RCRA for further action. Almost a year ago on September 9, 2014, EPA in partnership with FWS, released a CERCLA Preliminary Assessment (PA) of Tern Island, which documented existing releases of hazardous substances and the need for further response.

Tailings Piles: Dennis McLerran and I are working together to respond to your request to assess the extent of existing and abandoned tailings dams. I've been focusing on the Argonaut Mine in California, one of our pre-eminent such risks, and involving our State partners as we undertake removal actions, and remain concerned about the prospect of a wet winter at this site. We're completing a Region-wide tailings pile inventory for Dennis in the next week.

Western Regional Partnership: On August 12, I'll address the Western Regional Partnership Principals' meeting in Reno about EPA's efforts to address drought. After the WRP meeting, I'll meet with the editorial board of the Reno Gazette-Journal and discuss the Clean Power Plan and abandoned mines.

Water Innovation: OW, ORD, OEI and Region 9 will support a hackathon in San Francisco next weekend focused on the water sector.

<http://www.waterinnovationproject.com/hackathon-2/> EPA ORD is a co-sponsor, providing data sets and problem statements. Region 9 is also supporting a similar outreach event at the California Academy of Sciences next weekend.

Modesto Pesticide Collection: California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) pesticide collection event held in Modesto brought in approximately 1,700 pesticide containers and 38,000 pounds of unwanted and unusable agricultural pesticides were collected free of charge to growers. We funded this event and recently awarded funds to

DPR for a collection event in Imperial Valley in FY16 as part of the Making a Visible Difference Initiative.

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